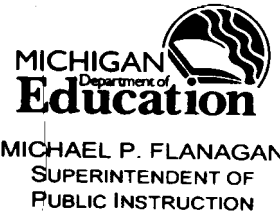




STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

October 27, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education
FROM: Mike Flanagan *MF*
SUBJECT: Presentation on Response-to-Intervention

Response-to-Intervention (RtI) is the practice of providing high quality instruction and/or intervention matched to student needs, using learning rate over time and level of performance, to make educational decisions. School-wide RtI emphasizes core instruction for all students, targeted instruction for smaller groups of students needing additional support, and intensive instruction for individual students needing very specific interventions.

Core principles of RtI include the following:

- All children can be effectively taught
- Early intervention when students are not at benchmark is critical
- A multi-tier model of service delivery must be in place
- A problem-solving methodology is essential
- Research-based scientifically validated instruction/interventions must be used
- Student progress must be monitored to inform instruction
- Data must be used to make educational decisions
- Assessments must be used for three different purposes
 - Universal screening
 - Diagnostics
 - Progress monitoring

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has successfully supported an RtI initiative since 2002-03 under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This initiative, Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MiBLSi) aligns with the IDEA for implementation of early intervening services for both literacy and positive behavior support. MiBLSi implements school-wide systems of tiered instruction/intervention that improves the achievement of all students, reduces discipline issues, and eliminates inappropriate referrals to special education.

MiBLSi was selected as one of six statewide initiatives across the country to work with a new federally funded center, the State Implementation and Scaling up of Evident-based Practices (SISEP). Working with SISEP will enable staff to apply the implementation and scaling-up knowledge and strategies to other MDE initiatives.

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324